PFLAG
Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays

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Keeping Families Strong **May, 1999**

Common Constructs of Oppression

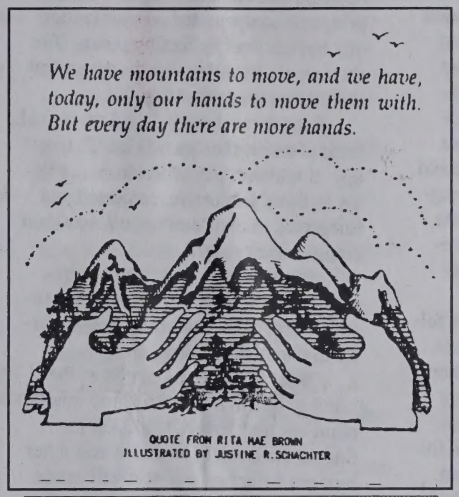
Anti-Semitism and Heterosexism

By Moshe Rozdzial

All oppressions, borne of misinformation directed towards the "Other" in our society, have common roots. In every case the goal is the unjust, destructive, and unequal distribution of power. And although there is no specific hierarchy of oppression, the context in which it manifests itself—history, economics, or politics — makes some forms thereof more closely related than others.

I propose that the elements that define the oppression of homosexuals —heterosexism and homophobia—are directly analogous to the elements that define the oppression of Jews — anti-Semitism. To understand the former while disregarding the latter is to overlook the most potent of historical lessons. More precisely, I believe that these two oppressions share many elements that are deeply rooted in the psyche of our culture, and since anti-Semitism has gone underground and heterosexism has become institutionalized, the hatred and scapegoating of Jews has, almost effortlessly, been transferred to homosexuals.

Homosexuals and Jews are feared and despised not because they can be identified as outwardly different, but precisely because of the relative ease with which both can be disguised. Both groups share the capacity to "pass," as


We have mountains to move, and we have, today, only our hands to move them with. But every day there are more hands.
QUOTE FROM RITA MAE BROWN
ILLUSTRATED BY JUSTINE R. SCHACHTER

either straight or gentile, respectively, and therefore become objects of suspicion and even sources of conspiracy. This has resonance especially in connection with the fear that centers upon children; homosexuals are viewed not only as furtive perpetrators of pedophilia, but as proselytizers of the gay "lifestyle." These fears echo the blood libel and kidnapping charges of historic anti-Semitism, when Jews were accused of the ritual slaughter of Christian children. This was seen in this country in the trial of the Rosenbergs and in the recent murder of Dr. Slepian.

Within the psychology of group hatred both Jews and homosexuals are viewed as wielders of political and economic power. Under the scrutiny of the prejudiced eye, they are charged with promoting "special rights" and are blamed for social ills and misfortunes.

These same accusing voices, that exclude those without power in the political arena, would never deny the overwhelming majority power of their collective political voice. Institutionalized Christianity and heterosexuality wield power through legislation that enshrines Christian religious holidays, sensibilities, and morality in a nominally secular state, and to heterosexual privilege through the protection of marital, inheritance, parental, taxation and military rights: privileges normalized as majority rights.

Similarly, religious attacks on homosexuals, defended by appeal to biblical precedent, echo the vilest forms of anti-Semitism. The slanders of "impurity" and "sodomy" have replaced "Christ-killers" in the vocabulary of hatred, and victimizing the victim has, once again, become the excuse to justify Heaven's retribution toward a minority community. Even the promised salvation through conversion reflects the common perception that both groups share a common designation: "outcasts in the sight of G-d." The stereotype of stubborn adherence to a despised lifestyle, even in the shadow of salvation, is also a common accusatory theme. After all, how can the Other

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Reparative Therapy a Hurtful Fraud

By Rodney Lester Bake

Amidst recent controversies surrounding Exodus, Focus on the Family, Evergreen International, the Mormon Church, homosexual reparative therapy and hate crime issues, I would like to share my personal experiences.

Just over 25 years ago, I attended Brigham Young University, where I entered a treatment/research project now generally referred to as "homosexual reparative therapy." I was told this treatment was highly successful, and my participation could help to establish its credibility. Long-term follow-up would be critical. At the end of the term that year, the results were stomach ulcers and self-defeat.

During the years immediately following, I investigated further. I was surprised to find that reparative therapy was receiving universal skepticism by professional organizations. Proper accreditation and approval for participation of people was lacking. Protocols for such treatments lacked rudimentary knowledge of the mental complexities involved and were often undertaken by poorly trained assistants and students. Appropriate, controlled and unbiased follow-up was non-existent. Failed participants were abandoned without assistance or alternatives to correct damage that may have been caused.

I naively prepared a position paper regarding my experience and submitted it to Mormon and university leaders. The response was the initiation of church proceedings for excommunication. The perpetrators of this fraud were not "indicted" by those particpating in this "trial," but representatives of the church in Denver excommunicated "the victim."

My vindication has been confirmed by all medical, psychological and psychiatric organizations. Each has reiterated the overwhelming findings of their membership (affirmed by unanimous motions of their governing boards).

Embarking on reparative therapy may cause adverse physical and mental conditions such as ulcers, anxiety, depression, etc. Those who enter into opposite-sex relationships find these problems compounded — unintentionally but adversely affecting others. The therapeutic intentions to change sexual orientation unequivocably fail.

Reparative therapy is not an ethical form of medical or mental health therapy. If allowed, gay individuals are as apt to be as productive, respected and integrated in their communities as their straight counterparts.

It is a travesty that this therapy may still be undertaken either at an institution of higher learning or by referral to unethical clinics.

Biblical sources are cited as the primary justification, but many scholars point out that Jesus Christ, Joseph Smith, the Book of Mormon and other modern witnesses are strangely silent. Much Old Testament practice was dismissed in Christ's teaching. Other references are suspect —originating in ignorance, bigotry, prejudice of the time, e.g. concubines, harems, eunuchs and other racial, gender and sexual slavery and subjugation —and rejected today.

Mormons and conservative Christians, for some archaic reason, continue to fan the flames of this issue. Hatred, demonizing and ignorance are blessed from the pulpit, inciting hate crimes and intimidation. The beaten and dying are tied to fences in order to deny us the same civil rights to "the pursuit of happiness" enjoyed by the majority. We are invited to leave, lest we "contaminate decent people."

Myths, rumors and innuendo replace fact. Disease (AIDS) is equated with divine retribution. I find this pronouncement particularly offensive —pneumonia, tuberculosis, and cancer kill many each year. Some of my childhood peers died of polio; cholera, typhoid; and plague afflicted my ancestors. Of what were they guilty?

My plea for compassion and understanding, that my differences might not be unlike eye color or left-handedness, was rejected. But accepted was the fraud perpetrated at Brigham Young (and now by Exodus, Evergreen International and others.) What positive outcome was there in excommunication, stigmatism, ostracism and shunning? None.

Eventually, I came to participate in a local community of successful role models, mentors, and leaders. It is time to acknowledge our understanding of the human sexual condition and end the practice of reparative therapy.

. . .This column appeared in the Denver Post on February 18, 1999 as a guest commentary. Our thanks to Rodney Bake and to the Post for permission to reprint it.

Rodney Bake has been an administrator in insurance and banking for more than 20 years. Don't miss our May PFLAG program when he will tell us about his experience undergoing reparative therapy at Brigham Young University.

NYAC Conference

During the weekend of May 14-16 , 1999 the National Youth Advocacy Coalition will sponsor its Western Regional Conference at the Ramada Downtown, Denver. The NYAC is the only national organization focused solely on improving the lives of g/l/b/t youth.

On Friday and Saturday there will be a variety of panel discussions, roundtable discussion groups, and skill-building sessions. On Sunday there will be a film presentation, closing with "Youth Speakout." Call 202-319-7596 for info or email: nyac@nyacyouth.org.

The web site is www.nyacyouth.org

Anti-Semitism and Heterosexism Oppression

Continued from page 1

want to be who they are, and stubbornly hold on to a life of deprivation when the doors are, figuratively, open to a life of safety, privilege, and saving grace?

To look at the language of marginalization without noticing historical connections would mean yielding to ignorance. Common weapons of oppression include the emasculation and defeminization (or sexualization) of Jews and homosexuals to perpetuate an excuse for dehumanization and a perception of facile targeting for violence. Thus, Jewish men are labeled Hymies, nerds, and weaklings, just as gay men are the sissies and girls —to mention only a few of the epithets hurled at them —while, Jewish women and lesbians are, respectively, bitches or princesses, butches and dykes.

The modern propaganda of hatred even uses terms that reflect Hitler's racial anti-Semitism; the metaphors of sickness, disease, contagion, and contamination, made more grotesque in light of the AIDS epidemic, are frightening reminders of past genocide and the excuses for a violent present.

The recent push to find a biological origin for homosexuality also presents a philosophical dilemma, as genetic predetermination looms as another reason for the eugenics response to homosexuality, just as it was for the "Jewish problem."

So, what are the lessons reflected in these mirrored images? That the defense against fundamentalism is openness, confidence, and passion against injustice. That there must be vigilance against the erosion of civil rights. That it takes commitment and work to undo external and institutionalized oppression and to unlearn internalized oppression. That equality comes through coalition building and alliances with all who struggle against oppression, in social and legal arenas, and by supporting leaders, leadership, and institutions that work toward shared power and resources and against the weapons of oppression; against violence, disenfranchisement, and marginalization.

Moshe Rozdzial, Ph.D., is a research scientist and psychotherapist, currently the school administrator for the Boulder Jewish Renewal Community and member of the National Council of the National Organization of Men Against Sexism (NOMAS)

Meet Margarethe Cammermeyer!

On May 22nd there will be a fund raiser for the Sevicemembers Legal Defense Network at the Warehouse. Colonel (ret) Margarethe Cammermeyer will be the guest of honor at a dessert reception scheduled for 7:30 p.m.

Tickets will be $25 per person and all proceeds will go to SLDN.

If you would like to receive an invitation, email Miniwheat@aol.com. Include your address and phone number.

Gay Writers Win Pulitzers

At the April announcement of Pulitzer Prize winners, gay and lesbian writers took a near-sweep of the prestigious awards.

Winners include novelist Michael Cunningham for his fourth novel, *The Hours*; playwright Margaret Edson for her 1991 *Wit* (which reached off-Broadway this season); journalist Jonathan Capehard, as part of the editorial board of the New York Daily News; and biographer A. Scott Berg, for his comprehensive acclaimed biography, *Lindbergh.* Berg, who dedicated the book to his partner, Kevin McCormack, is now looking forward to the film version —in development by none other than Steven Spielberg.

Screen-writer Paul Attanasio (Donnie Brasco, Quiz Show) is turning Berg's book into a script for Spielberg.

In other nominations for the Drama Desk awards for best new play, four out of five nominations went to gay and lesbian playwrights: Christopher Durang for *Betty's Summer Vaction,* David Marshall Grant for *Snakebit,* Margaret Edson for *Wit,* and Tennessee Williams for *Not About Nightingales.* The 5th nominee is Arthur Miller (who happens to be straight) for *The Ride Down Mt. Morgan.)*

INSIDE/OUT GAY YOUTH SUPPORT GROUP

Serving gay, lesbian, bisexual, and questioning youth

Weekly meetings offer rapping and recreational activities under the guidance of trained facilitators. There is no fee.
Meetings are safe, supportive, and confidential.
Indepth counseling available.

Call 575-8484
email: NsideoutCS@aol.com
http://www.outgay.com/community/colorado/youth

Sponsored by the Community Council for Adolescent Development

A Warm Welcome to Terry Summers

The Pikes Peak Gay & Lesbian Community Center (PPGLCC) has hired the first executive director since its incorporation in 1982. Terry Summers began the work of full-time Director on March 1, 1999. A welcoming reception was held for him on April 17 at the Pride Center.

Terry was formerly the Executive Director of the Lambda Community Center in Ft. Collins where he was responsible for expanding the Center's programs and services. Memberships increased from 65 to 350; the budget from $10,000 to $70,000.

Besides offering a referral service and information to callers on their Resource line: 471-4GAY, PPGLCC sponsors the radio show, "This Way Out" every Wednesday evening on KRCC 91.5 FM at 6:30 p.m.

Look for their web site after May 1st at www.ppglcc.org.

Tel: 471-4429 or fax: 578-5049.

Chicken Soup for the Gay and Lesbian Soul

Most everyone is familiar with the popular *Chicken Soup for the Soul* books. The authors have expanded the series to include specially targeted books such as *Chicken Soup for the Pet Lovers Soul , the Mother's Soul,* etc. These inspirational stories have become best-sellers.

Now the authors are compiling stories for a Chicken Soup for the Gay and Lesbian Soul. The co-author has spoken of his support for the g/l/b/t community and his wonderful gay nephew. PFLAG stories are welcome.

If you would like to submit a story of your own please send to:

Frank Siccone
2151 Union St.
San Francisco, CA 94123
FAX: 415-922-2245

(From National Pflag)

National Conference 2000

Pflaggers are encouraged to register early for the National Conference in Washington D.C. scheduled for April 28-30, 2000. Thousands of people are expected for the Millennium March on Washington following the conference, so plan ahead!

The early bird registration fee is $150 for members; $180 for non-members through May and June, 1999. After that it goes up to $200 and $230 respectively.

The Crystal Gateway Marriott has secured PFLAG Conference attendees one of the lowest room rates in the area: $143/single, $153/double, $163 triple and $173 quad. (not including tax.) Please register for the conference at the same time you reserve your room. To qualify for the special rate, reservations must be made with the hotel no later than April 6, 2000, HOWEVER, all rooms will probably be sold out long before that date. Call 1-800-228-9290 to make your reservation.

Registration forms will be available on the library table at PFLAG meetings or by calling the PFLAG number. For details call PFLAG National at 202-638-4200; FAX 202-638-0243. The PFLAG National web site is http://www.pflag.org.

Colorado Springs News

PFLAG is delighted to welcome our newly elected Mayor and City Council members. The April 6th election was a decisive victory for present Mayor, Mary Lou Makepeace, who will serve another four years.

Lionel Rivera, JoAnne Colt, Dr. Ted Eastburn and Richard Skorman won seats on the Council by a wide margin.

Defeated were Will Perkins, former president of Colorado for Family Values, in his bid for the mayoral seat and former council member, Dawson Hubert, who backed attempts by CFV to reword the city's anti-discrimination policy to exclude gay people. Will Perkins attributed his loss to the difficulty in overturning an incumbent. When asked if he thought he had failed to get his message out, he replied that he had gotten his message out, but that the voters didn't understand it.

The new Council members bring a variety of talents to the city government along with a forward looking and inclusive viewpoint.

The election goes far in assuring the rest of the country that the city will not tolerate bigotry or prejudice against any of its citizens.

Shortly after the city election, Paul Jessen, Executive director of Colorado for Family Values, resigned his position. Nancy Sutton, president of CFV's board, will serve as interim director. One of her priorities is to oppose hate crimes bills.

Calamity Jane is coming to town!
Don't miss her show at the Warehouse!
Order your tickets now. $20 per person includes dessert and punch. Proceeds will benefit PFLAG. See page 5 for info.

PFLAG Potpourri

White Elephant Time is HERE Folks!

Clean out your garage! Unclutter your closets! Let's make a few $$$$ for PFLAG and have them matched by the Gill Foundation!

Linda Knutson has kindly offered to lend us her garage and yard so that we can take advantage of the huge annual Windjammer neighborhood sale. The event is attended by hundreds of people.

Where: 8258 Brigantine Drive

When: Saturday, May 15th from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

You may bring your contributions to the May 12th PFLAG meeting or take them directly to Linda's (no more than two days before the sale.)

Please price your items. If you have a set price you want, mark on the sale item; otherwise items will be marked down if they haven't sold by noon. Also indicate if you want the item back in case it doesn't sell. All unsold items will be taken to the Goodwill at the end of the day. No clothes please, but everything else will be welcome.

Linda will need some help the day before the sale and the day of the sale. Call her at 260-0366 if you can lend a hand.

Directions to the Windjammer Neighborhood:

Take Union Boulevard north. Go past Academy Blvd; past Woodmen; past Briargate. Turn left on Lexington; turn right on Clipper (at first crosswalk stoplight); turn left on Brigantine.

May 12th PFLAG Program

What really goes on in those conversion therapy sessions that the religious ministries claim can change gays into heterosexuals? Rodney Bake, a Denver businessman, will tell us about the conversion therapy he experienced under the aegis of the Mormon Church.

June Is Bustin' Out All Over!

Pflaggers and friends are in for a rollicking good time June 9th when we are joined by Calamity Jane and her sidekick Barbwire for an evening of comic entertainment. The event will be a fund-raiser for PFLAG with all proceeds matched by the Gill Foundation.

Instead of meeting at the church, we are gathering at 7:30 p.m. at the Warehouse at 25 West Cimarron for dessert and the funniest show this side of Hee-Haw.

Glenda Bell and Barb Fisher will celebrate western life in "Calamity Jane Tells Her Tale." Glenda will bring Calamity back to life, sharing her ups and downs as she tries to keep her life together, mostly . . .

Barb Fisher will add guitar music and more laughter to the show.

Bell and Fisher have presented this authentic, highly entertaining history lesson all across the U.S., at colleges and universities, fairs, historical societies, and community organizations.

When: Wednesday, June 9, 7:30 - 9:30 pm.

Where: The Warehouse, 25 W. Cimarron.

Tab: Tickets are $20 per person, which will include non-alcoholic drinks and dessert snacks. (Alcoholic drinks may be purchased at the restaurant bar.) Tickets will be available at the May meeting or at the door.

Reserve your ticket NOW! Call Jean Lynn at 597-1925 or mail your check to 4408 Slide Circle, CS/CO 80917.

"Liberty and Justice for All"

PFLAG's Intermountain Conference is scheduled for June 11 - 13 at the Little America Hotel in Salt Lake City.

A keynote dinner with three noted speakers will open the conference Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. Paul Beeman, President of PFLAG National, will talk about how we as conference participants may be more effective in combating discrimination and working toward creation of a more decent and just society. Jonathan Moscone is the son of the former mayor of San Francisco who was a great supporter of gay rights and was assassinated along with Harvey Milk in 1978. Tom Ammiano was a personal friend of Harvey Milk and now occupies the seat on San Francisco Board of Supervisors formerly held by Milk.

A wide variety of workshops will include discussions on most of the social aspects of homosexuality ranging from controversies in public education and the law, to spirituality, and personal and family relationships.

Register early! Space is limited to 400 people who will be handled on a first-come, first served basis. The pre-registration deadline is Tuesday, June 1, 1999.

The registration fee is $60 per person which includes Friday evening dinner and Saturday brunch.

Garden rooms are $89 single/double. Tower suites are $99 single/double.

Call 800-437-5288 by May 11, 1999. Mention PFLAG to obtain the above rates.

ABOUT CHOICE

Life is Filled With Choices

We can choose to love and accept one another and we can choose to turn our faces away from each other. We can choose to believe the best about each other and we can choose to believe only the worse. We can choose to accept, affirm and love one another without fear. We can choose to resist and even come to resent each other.

We can choose to trust and we can choose to distrust and mistrust. We can choose to live in fear and we can choose to live in confidence and hope.

We can choose to think about new information and we can choose to resist it. We can choose to hold on to traditional stereotypes and misconceptions about other persons we see as different from ourselves. And we can come to embrace and affirm those we do not yet know and understand.

We can choose to read a variety of information and we can choose to read only that which agrees with our present views. We can choose to be influenced only by others and we can choose to read and think for ourselves.

We can choose to examine recent scientific findings about human sexuality and we can choose to reject anything that doesn't support our present thoughts. We can choose to seek more knowledge, to understand and we can choose to remain satisfied with what we think we already know.

We can choose what we wear, where we live and what we do. We can choose the people with whom we wish to spend time. We can choose our lifestyles, the way we live our lives. But to the best of our knowledge, we cannot choose our height, the color of our skin, whether we are left handed or right handed or whether we are straight or gay.

. . .Vern Norris and Ken Prunty (reprinted from Indianapolis and Denver PFLAG newsletters.)

In Memory of the students killed at Columbine High School

As most of you know, the CO Coalition of PFLAG Chapters has worked with the Colorado Coalition for Safe Schools during the past year. We know only too well the harassment and physical abuse directed at our gay children in the schools. We also know that bullying and violence against high schoolers is not limited to gay students.

Now in the wake of the terrorist killings at Columbine High School, the issue of violence in the schools takes a top priority.

PFLAG backs all programs designed to promote understanding and non-violent conflict resolution among *all* students. A future issue of the newsletter will be devoted to identifying solutions to the problem of violence in our schools.

EVERYONE PLEASE REMEMBER TO KEEP OUR MEETINGS CONFIDENTIAL

PERSPECTIVES

All of us must change our lives to honor these children. More than ever, I realize that every one of us is responsible for all the children. There are children today hungering for their parents to become more involved in their schools and to fill the spiritual void in their lives. If you are a parent, your children need attention. If you are a grandparent, they need your time. If you do not have children, there are kids who need your example and presence.

Vice President Al Gore at the memorial for slain Columbine students.

Friends, We've lost too many treasured lives. But we are here today to celebrate that these Coloradans from Columbine High School, they graced our lives, these sons and daughters, students and teacher, friends and neighbors brought joy and hope into our world. Let us honor and celebrate them.

Colorado Governor Bill Owens

Our brilliance has developed technology that affords even children the networking and the know-how to be effective, if not sophisticated, mass killers. But we can't seem to show them why not to be killers in the first place.

The Rev. Richard R. Wolschlaeger

The Colorado Springs Chapter of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays is a non-profit, community-based organization not affiliated with any ethnic, religious, educational, counseling, business, or political group. Our purpose is to support and educate families to better understand homosexuality and to provide the community with information and insights gained through our experience and study.

When A Spouse Comes Out

Hot off the press is PFLAG's newly revised publication, *Opening the Straight Spouse's Closet.* It addresses many of the issues facing those whose spouses have "come out" to them as gay, lesbian or bisexual. The booklet also features an expanded discussion of the issues that children face in coping with the news of their parents' sexuality.

Opening the Straight Spouse's Closet lets straight spouses know that they are not alone, and that their feelings are not unusual. Estimates indicate that 2 million married people are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered, and about 3.5 million children have gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgendered parents.

"It is often difficult when a loved one 'comes out,' and this situation is even more complicated if that person is involved in a heterosexual relationship," says PFLAG Executive Director Kirsten Kingdon. As the mother of a gay son and a son whose wife came out as a lesbian, Kingdon understands how complex these issues are, and how great a need there is for a publication like this.

Opening the Straight Spouse's Closet addresses the coping stages that straight spouses and their children go through as they work toward rebuilding and resolution in their lives.

The booklet encourages replacing misinformation with truth, and stresses the importance of unlearning prejudice through examples of love and acceptance. Final resolution for spouses and children comes as everyone involved honestly faces reality and commits to forging new paths for their future.

The publication offers an extensive list of resources including the Straight Spouse Network. Call the PFLAG number if you would like to receive a copy. Or pick one up at meeting.

Gay Students Cause Another Flap In Salt Lake City

Recently, dozens of parents attended a meeting in Salt Lake City charging that East High School principal, Kay Peterson allowed "gay propaganda" in the school. The charges came after members of the school's Gay-Straight Alliance were allowed to show a slide show as part of the school's popular-culture assembly. Alliance member Ben Vigil said, "We just wanted to express our culture." But Sandra Rodriguez of the America Forever Foundation, threatened legal action and said, "This is propaganda and most parents don't understand this is the tip of the iceberg."

Peterson accepted full responsibility at the meeting for allowing the presentation. "I see people stand up and dodge bullets and not take responsibility. You're not going to see a man here do that," he said. "I felt what I did at the time was legal and right."

In mid-April U.S. District Judge Bruce Jenkins heard arguments in a case challenging the school district's ban on student clubs unrelated to curricula. The ban was imposed in 1996 after a request from East High School students to form a Gay-Straight Alliance. The school district countered by banning all school clubs not related to curricula.

Attorneys for the students argued that the ban infringed on free speech rights. The District Attorney countered by noting that the Gay-Straight Alliance had made a presentation at the popular culture assembly the week before.

The judge did not issue a ruling. Instead he suggested that the school district may want to consider adding "a class on tolerance, a class on compassion, a class on human dignity."

KEEPING FAMIILIES STRONG

A membership in PFLAG extends a helping hand to families who have gay members; provides educational material for families and the public;and offers a family voice that stands for equality and justice for all human beings.

Local membership includes newsletter
____New member ____Old member

____Low income .$5.00-10.00
____Individual . .$20
____Household . . $30
____Supporting. . $60 $_____

National PFLAG membership $8.00 $_____

Total $_____

Special Gift _____Qualifies for matching funds

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City_____State_____Zip _____

Adress_____

City_____State_____Zip _____

Make checks payable to Colorado Springs PFLAG and mail to P.O. box 10076, Colorado Springs, CO 80932.
Membership and contributions are tax deductible. All information will remain confidential. PFLAG is a 501(C) 3 nonprofit organization.
If you need a receipt for tax purposes please call 591-6793.

BULLETIN BOARD

PFLAG meetings are held the second Wednesday of the month at the Unitarian Church at Dale and Tejon streets. Doors are open at 6:30 p.m. for social time. Sharing circles start at 7:00 p.m. and the program at 8:00 p.m.

Board of Directors meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of the month at the Unitarian Church annex on the corner of Dale and Cascade streets. All members are welcome.

Wednesday, May 12 -Rodney Bake, a businessman from Denver, will tell us about his experience undergoing religious "change" therapy. See page 2.

Wednesday, June 9 - Calamity Jane is coming to town! Instead of meeting at the church, we'll be entertained at the Warehouse, 25 West Cimarron. Tickets are $20 per person. All proceeds will benefit PFLAG and be eligible for matching funds. See page 5 for details.

Other Meetings, Conferences, and Gay Times

Saturday, May 8th -PFLAG will staff a table at the Colorado Springs Health Fair to be held at the Shrine Club on Fontanero Street from 7 a.m. to 12 noon.

Friday May 14-16 —NYAC Western Regional Conference at the Ramada Downtown, Denver. Gay youth and their adult allies will share experiences, and work on building skills to effect change.

Saturday May 15 -PFLAG yard sale at Windjammer in Briargate. 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. See page 5. Bring your sale items to the May PFLAG meeting or drop by Linda Knutson's house on Thursday or Friday before the sale.

Saturday, May 22 - Dessert reception for Colonel(ret) Margarethe Cammermeyer at the Warehouse, 7:30 p.m. See page 3.

Sunday, June 29 - Denver Pride Fest, parade, rally, festival. The parade begins at 10 a.m. at Cheesman Park and will end at Civic Center Park. The festival will feature music, food, marchandise and other products and services. Call 303-831-6268 for more info.

Think Ahead!
Colorado Springs PrideFest - August 27th - 29th

Contact the PFLAG newsletter editor at Tel. and Fax: 719-598-5258—e-mail: PatPfeif@aol.com (Pat Pfeiffer)-

Happy Mother's Day to all our PFLAG moms and grandmoms

Thanks to T.D.E., the Denver Exchange, for graciously providing space for the PFLAG Colorado Springs Home page. TDE Internet can be reached at (303) 455-4252 or sales @tde.com

The PFLAG Colorado Springs Home page is located at: www.tde.com/~pflagcos

PFLAG NATIONAL WEB

http://www.pflag.org

Thank Anheuser-Busch for Positive Advertising!

Anheuser-Busch (Bud Light) has created an ad depicting two men holding hands (first ever type of ad) with the slogan, "Be yourself and make it a Bud Light."

Please call and say thank-you for this inclusive and positive advertising:

1-800-342-5283.

It is important that they hear from us because the religious right has a targeted campaign to stop the ad. Hundreds have called in against it. Your call will be received very well. They appreciate positive feedback and need to know that we support their decision to be inclusive.

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian and bisexual persons, their families and friends, through support, to cope with an adverse society; education, to enlighten an ill-informed public; and advocacy, to end discrimination and to secure equal civil rights. PFLAG provides an opportunity for dialogue about sexual orientation, and acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity.